

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. – 14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A composition for local anesthesia, wherein the composition is suitable for injection in oral surgery or dental treatment, has a pH of ~~about~~ 3.0 to 7.5, comprises an aqueous solution of a local anesthetic as an active ingredient and an agent for sustaining an anesthetic action selected from antihistamines, and does not contain a catecholamine, and wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 g to 10 g of antihistamine per 1 g of local anesthetic.

16. (previously presented) The composition of claim 15, wherein the local anesthetic comprises lidocaine hydrochloride.

17. (previously presented) The composition of claim 15, wherein the agent for sustaining an anesthetic action comprises an antihistamine which has a diphenylmethyl group (wherein the phenyl groups may be unsubstituted or substituted) as a partial structure.

18. (previously presented) The composition of claim 17, wherein the antihistamine comprises at least one of diphenhydramine hydrochloride and hydroxyzine hydrochloride.

19. (previously presented) The composition of claim 16, wherein the agent for sustaining an anesthetic action comprises an antihistamine which has a diphenylmethyl group (wherein the phenyl groups may be unsubstituted or substituted) as a partial structure.

20. (previously presented) The composition of claim 19, wherein the antihistamine comprises at least one of diphenhydramine hydrochloride and hydroxyzine hydrochloride.

21. (cancelled)

22. (previously presented) The composition of claim 15, wherein the composition has an osmotic pressure ratio of about 0.8 – 1.3.

23. (previously presented) The composition of claim 15, wherein the composition has an osmotic pressure ratio of about 1.0.

24. (previously presented) The composition of claim 19, wherein the composition has an osmotic pressure ratio of about 0.8 – 1.3.

25. (previously presented) The composition of claim 19, wherein the composition has an osmotic pressure ratio of about 1.0.

26. (previously presented) A composition for local anesthesia in oral surgery or dental treatment, wherein the composition comprises an aqueous solution of a local anesthetic as an active ingredient and an agent for sustaining an anesthetic action selected from antihistamines and does not contain a catecholamine, the composition having an osmotic pressure ratio of about 0.8-1.3.

27. (previously presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the composition has an osmotic pressure ratio of about 1.0.

28. (previously presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the local anesthetic comprises lidocaine hydrochloride.

29. (previously presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the agent for sustaining an anesthetic action comprises an antihistamine which has a diphenylmethyl group (wherein the phenyl groups may be unsubstituted or substituted) as a partial structure.

30. (previously presented) The composition of claim 29, wherein the antihistamine comprises at least one of diphenhydramine hydrochloride and hydroxyzine hydrochloride.

31. (previously presented) The composition of claim 28, wherein the agent for sustaining an anesthetic action comprises an antihistamine which has a diphenylmethyl group (wherein the phenyl groups may be unsubstituted or substituted) as a partial structure.

32. (previously presented) The composition of claim 31, wherein the antihistamine comprises at least one of diphenhydramine hydrochloride and hydroxyzine hydrochloride.

33. (previously presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 g to 10 g of antihistamine per 1 g of local anesthetic.

34. (previously presented) A composition for local anesthesia, wherein the composition is suitable for injection in oral surgery or dental treatment, has an osmotic pressure ratio of about 1.0, comprises an aqueous solution of a local anesthetic which comprises lidocaine hydrochloride as an active ingredient and an agent for sustaining an anesthetic action which comprises at least one antihistamine which has a diphenylmethyl group (wherein the phenyl groups may be unsubstituted or substituted) as a partial structure, and wherein the composition does not contain a catecholamine and comprises about 0.1 g to 10 g of antihistamine per 1 g of local anesthetic.

35. (currently amended) The composition of claim 34, wherein the composition has a pH of ~~about~~ 3.0 to 7.5.